

Sabetha Commission Discusses Fire Truck Purchase

More research will be done before a new fire truck is purchased for the Sabetha Fire Department. Fire Chief Jim Johnson provided city commissioners this week with a list of prices he had received on new and used fire trucks.

Johnson and City Administrator Doug Allen attended a meeting with Rural Fire District #5 to discuss the purchase of the truck. The fire district has agreed to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ of the truck payment along with the \$10,000 subsidy they pay the fire department currently. That would be an increase of about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mills for the landowners in the Rural Fire District #5 area.

A lengthy discussion followed. Mayor Doug Clark told Johnson that it looks like the commission isn't ready to make a commitment to a \$300,000 truck.

Commissioner Nick Aberle asked if the city could purchase the truck chassis and create the truck they want. Aberle said he feels they need to be creative and good stewards of the citizen's tax money.

Commissioner Rick Koch asked that Johnson further research trucks in the \$150,000 to \$170,000 range.

Commissioners voted for Assistant City Administrator Bill Shroyer to assist Johnson with the research for the truck.

In other business, the commission voted to purchase a street sweeper from Key Equipment of Kansas City for \$161,580 with a five-year lease purchase through Community National Bank at 3.24 percent.